

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

I would ask the FCC to continue to maintain and promote technology that allows liberal "fair use" of copy righted materials, and to assert that copies for personal use do fall under the rights of a purchaser of content.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices?

I believe this would interfere with this type of transmission.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

I believe the flag would prematurely obsolete current equipment.

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

I am not sure that this would result, I am sure that new equipment will always continue to be developed to provide revenue to manufacturers.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

I believe it would initially increase the cost due to the additional costs associated with the technology development and deployment.

Other Comments:

I would ask the FCC to consider the history related to content providers and their initial opposition to the selling and renting of videotaped copies of content, only to see the video retail industry actually become a significant source of revenue for them. Consumer oriented fair-use policies, and the ability of persons not deemed professionals to have access to digital technologies, are important components of a free society.

I would ask the FCC to give these concerns greater weight than the ability of specific corporations and individuals to maximize their profit on content released for public consumption.